

## Lesson 5: Goo Mdm Wila Saḵ'odza Maas

### How to remove the outer bark

1. Dziḷa gawdiim sa beexḷga maas, dm hoyḷ na haḷabiisgn mdm saḵ'odza maas.  
When you have your strip of cedar, you will begin removing the outer bark with your knife.
2. Ksa wil sit'aa'man 'nii mdm wil hoy haḷabiisk.  
Your knife is only needed to start the removal process.
3. 'Na ts'uusga maas dm wil sit'aa'man.  
Start from the narrower end.
4. Dziḷa gawdi mḵ'odza dm wil sit'aa'man dawila na ga'on'on dm hoyḷ mdm basagn maas da hat'al.  
Once you split the outer bark away from the inner bark, you can use your hands and peel the rest away, using your knife only when needed.
5. Sgüü mdm gyinadoo maas a laxyuub a miyaan gan.  
Always leave the outer bark next to the tree you just stripped so that the nutrients can be absorbed back into the tree.
6. Dm saḵ'odzn ligi kpiil da gup'l inches a na miyaanm hat'al awil gal seeypgit.  
Remove a foot off the bottom of the inner bark, it is too hard to work with.
7. T'akyl na hat'aln adam logm magat a ts'm t'u'utsgm galm saḷee.  
Roll up your inner bark and store it in your black garbage bag.

## Lesson 6: Goo Mdm La Basagn Hat'al

### How to split the inner bark

1. Sgüü dm xts'ii hat'al mdm wil da'axłga mdm basagnt.  
The inner bark should be thick enough to split once.
2. Dziła gawdiim basagan hat'al dm yełka küült, ada dm gasgaatsa gyik küült.  
You will have two types of inner bark: the side that was touching the trunk that will be smoother and shinier, and the side that was touching the outer bark, woody and not as shiny.
3. Dm hoyn halabiisk mdm wil basagnt.  
Use your knife to split it.
4. Akadi sgatga gwa'a k'ap sgüü mdm suwilaawkst.  
This process isn't easy; you have to learn how to do it.
5. Mala ga'an'on dm hoyn mdm snyaagwa hat'al, da awaa na txa'moon.  
Hold the bark with both hands, close to the body.
6. Na gamoosn dm hoyn mdm basagn hat'al.  
Using your thumbs use equal and even pressure, begin pulling the bark apart.
7. Dziła basaga hat'al nah gasgaadzm hat'al dm hoyks da liiti.  
Once split, the bark that touched the outer bark will be used for the warps.
8. Ada 'na yełgm hat'al dm hoyks da huu.  
And the other is used for wefts.
9. Da'axłgn mdm ta'kyl na hat'aln ligim hoy na hak'otsliitin.  
You can either roll up your bark or use your jerry stripper.

## Lesson 7: Dm Wila ‘Yaayga Na Hat’aln

### Hanging your bark



Left: Hanging bundles of dried cedar bark Melody Leask gave her daughter Naomi Leask.

Center: Shannon Hudson removes Lillian Buchert’s cedar bark strips after drying inside (1991).

Right: Kandi McGilton’s red cedar bark hanging inside to dry for a few hours.

1. Da’axlgn mdm siluunü hat’al ada mdm t’alt, nagooga mdm gyik basagn hat’al da huu ligi liiti.  
You can dry strips of split (or un-split) inner bark and store them for later use, before splitting them again into warps and wefts.
2. Dm ‘yaaygan dm wil siluunü a k’üül ligi gup’l sah a ts’m waab ligi a gyelg dzida guusga ggemgm dziiws.  
Hang them to dry for a day or two inside or outside if the weather is sunny.
3. Amanii dmt ‘wäh gwaantgida hat’al da laxyuub ligi liksgigyedm hat’al.  
Make sure the bark doesn’t touch the ground or other strips.
4. Da’axlgn mdm basagn nast’oo hat’al, wagayt dm wil sgüü gup’l inches maant dm wil ‘yaayx a lax hagwilhuu.  
You can split a strip in half lengthwise, until you have two inches left at the widest part to hang on a line.
5. Sgüü dm luunksa hat’al dm wil ‘wäh yenkt lam t’alit, da’ap lawila saalgit dm wil da’axlga dm t’ak’ylt.  
The bark needs to dry so it won’t mold when stored, but is still pliable enough to store in loose coils or bundles.
6. Aka dm tgi t’ikt’uust dm wil ‘wäh yenkt.  
Don’t store them too tight to prevent mold.

## Lesson 8: Goo Mdm Wila Hoy Hak'otsliiti

### How to use your jerry stripper

1. Sgüü dm saatga na hat'aln nagooga mdm hoy hak'otsliiti.  
Your bark should be pliable before running it through a jerry stripper.
2. Dzida 'wah saatgit lullooksnt a ts'm ksigwanksm aks.  
If you need to soak your bark in water to make it pliable, use rain water.
3. Akadi aam gyemgm aks.  
Warm water is not good.
4. Dm hoyn hak'otsliiti mdm dzaba liiti, ada mdm hoy hak'otsliiti mdm dzaba huu.  
Use your jerry stripper to make warps, and use your jerry stripper to make wefts.
5. K'a aam dzidat limoomnt ligit naa.  
This process works best when you have someone helping you.
6. Dm snyaagwa k'oolda gyed wil 'na xts'ii hat'al, ada dmt galksise'ikit a hak'otsliiti.  
One person will hold the wider end of the bark, and pull the bark through the jerry stripper as straight as possible.
7. Gik k'oolda gyeda in liita hat'al awil sgüü dm aats'iga hat'al.  
One person will watch the bark and will keep it straight (by guiding it with their hands).
8. Dm basagn gasgaadm hat'al ada yetgm hat'al.  
Keep the warp bark in one pile, and the weft bark in another.
9. Hagwil huwaan, gyiloo malan.  
Take your time, don't rush.



Below: Annette Topham's coiled red cedar from the harvest.

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Aerial Horne and daughter Ashlynn Horne separating individual wefts and tying them into figure-eight slip knots.

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Kandi McGilton teaching Anna Kitson and Kimberlee Anderson how to use a jerry stripper.

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Above: Naomi Leask with daughter Selina Savage and Aerial Horne helping each other run their bark through the jerry stripper.

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Kimberlee Anderson holding the wefts she cut with the jerry stripper.

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## Lesson 9: Goo Mdm Wila Gwildm Ga'wn Hat'al

### How to prepare your cedar strips

1. Dzila gawdi k'ask'odza hat'al da'axlgn mdm bisbasagnt ligi mdm sagayt tik'tak'ylt.  
When you're done cutting the bark (with a jerry stripper), separate them individually or roll them up.
2. Dzida lawila lm'yetsga liiti, gyiloomdza bisbasagnt.  
If your warps are still attached together, separate them individually.
3. Dzilam bisbasagnt, dm ts'iibn dm wilat hoyaga "figure 8".  
After you separate them, tie them into figure-eights.
4. La mdm gwildm ga'wn liiti.  
Now you're going to prepare a warp.
5. Hoy 'nastoo hałabiisk ligi na łaksm tsuwaaldn mdm sa łaalba maas.  
Use a paring knife or fingernail to remove any frays from the cedar strip (or to peel off areas that are too thick).
6. Dzidam k'o'olda dm la gyoon a gwa'a, aka dm di aamł la dzaba ts'ilaan.  
It is important to create an even thickness for the warps and wefts.
7. Dzida sa akadi hasagnt, mdm sit'aa goo dm dzabn ta'kyl na hat'aln adam magat a ts'm gwe'ełm sawinsk wagayt dm wil hasagn mdm gyik mangaat.  
If you decide to weave later, dry your bark strips in figure-eights then store them in a brown paper bag in a dry place.